

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A digital signal recording/reproducing apparatus for recording an inputted digital signal into a recording medium and reproducing said digital signal from said recording medium, a control flag as to temporary copy permission being added to said inputted digital signal, comprising:

a recording circuit for recording said digital signal into a 1st recording medium,

a reproducing circuit for reproducing said digital signal from said 1st recording medium, and

a detecting/controlling circuit for detecting said control flag and controlling said recording circuit and said reproducing circuit, wherein

said detecting/controlling circuit temporarily records said digital signal into said 1st recording medium in accordance with a condition of said control flag, and reproduces said digital signal from said 1st recording medium in accordance with a condition of said control flag.

2. The digital signal recording/reproducing apparatus as claimed in Claim 1, wherein a new control flag is added to said inputted digital signal when said digital signal is recorded into said 1st recording medium, said digital signal being reproduced in accordance with a condition of said new control flag when said digital signal is reproduced from said 1st recording medium.

3. The digital signal recording/reproducing apparatus as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said detecting/controlling circuit further records said digital signal into a 2nd recording medium in accordance with said condition of said control flag, said digital signal having been reproduced from said 1st recording medium.

4. The digital signal recording/reproducing apparatus as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said control flag includes a recording medium flag indicating information as to a type of a recording medium into which a recording is permitted, said recording being permitted if said 1st recording medium is a recording medium specified by said recording medium flag.

5. The digital signal recording/reproducing apparatus as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said control flag includes a reproducing point-in-time flag indicating information as to a point-in-time when a reproduction is permitted, said reproduction from said 1st recording medium being permitted at a point-in-time that is earlier than said point-in-time indicated by said reproducing point-in-time flag.

6. The digital signal recording/reproducing apparatus as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said control flag includes a reproducing time-period flag indicating information as to a time-period during which a reproduction is permitted, said reproduction from said 1st recording medium being permitted at a point-in-time

included within said time-period indicated by said reproducing time-period flag.

7. The digital signal recording/reproducing apparatus as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said control flag includes a reproducing frequency flag indicating information as to a frequency in which reproductions are permitted, said reproduction from said 1st recording medium being permitted if a present reproducing frequency is within said frequency indicated by said reproducing frequency flag.

8. The digital signal recording/reproducing apparatus as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said control flag includes a recording medium flag indicating information as to a type of a recording medium from which a reproduction is permitted, said reproduction being permitted if said 1st recording medium is a recording medium specified by said recording medium flag.

9. The digital signal recording/reproducing apparatus as claimed in Claim 1, wherein even if said control flag has copy information indicating copy prohibition, said control for recording said digital signal into said 1st recording medium is executed when a temporary copy flag has been detected, said temporary copy flag permitting a temporary recording into said 1st recording medium.

10. The digital signal recording/reproducing apparatus as claimed in Claim 9, wherein even if said

control flag has said copy information indicating said copy prohibition, said control for recording said digital signal into said 1st recording medium is executed when any one of a reproducing point-in-time flag, a reproducing time-period flag, a reproducing frequency flag, and a recording medium flag has been detected.

11. The digital signal recording/reproducing apparatus as claimed in Claim 6, wherein said digital signal is erased when said time-period indicated by said reproducing time-period flag has passed.

12. The digital signal recording/reproducing apparatus as claimed in Claim 7, wherein said digital signal is erased if said reproducing frequency indicated by said reproducing frequency flag has been exceeded.

13. The digital signal recording/reproducing apparatus as claimed in Claim 3, wherein when said control flag indicates that said digital signal cannot be recorded into said 1st recording medium, said digital signal is controlled so that said signal will not be recorded into said 2nd recording medium, either.

14. A digital signal receiving apparatus for receiving a transmitted digital signal and outputting said digital signal to a recording/reproducing apparatus, a control flag as to temporary copy permission being added to said received digital signal, comprising:

a detecting/controlling circuit for detecting said control flag and controlling said recording/reproducing apparatus, wherein in accordance with a condition of said control flag, said detecting/controlling circuit temporarily records said digital signal into a recording medium in said external recording/reproducing apparatus.

15. The digital signal receiving apparatus as claimed in Claim 14, wherein said detecting/controlling circuit executes a reproducing control of reproducing said digital signal from said recording medium in accordance with said condition of said control flag.

16. The digital signal receiving apparatus as claimed in Claim 15, wherein said detecting/controlling circuit adds a new control flag to said inputted digital signal when said digital signal is recorded into said recording medium, said detecting/controlling circuit reproducing said digital signal in accordance with a condition of said new control flag when said digital signal is reproduced from said recording medium.

17. The digital signal receiving apparatus as claimed in Claim 15, wherein said digital signal is recorded into a 2nd recording medium in accordance with said condition of said control flag, said digital signal having been reproduced from said recording medium.

18. The digital signal receiving apparatus as

claimed in Claim 14, wherein said control flag includes a recording medium flag indicating information as to a type of a recording medium into which a recording is permitted, said detecting/controlling circuit permitting said recording if said recording medium is a recording medium specified by said recording medium flag.

19. The digital signal receiving apparatus as claimed in Claim 15, wherein said control flag includes a reproducing point-in-time flag indicating information as to a point-in-time when a reproduction is permitted, said detecting/controlling circuit permitting said reproduction from said recording medium at a point-in-time that is earlier than said point-in-time indicated by said reproducing point-in-time flag.

20. The digital signal receiving apparatus as claimed in Claim 15, wherein said control flag includes a reproducing time-period flag indicating information as to a time-period during which a reproduction is permitted, said detecting/controlling circuit permitting said reproduction from said recording medium at a point-in-time included within said time-period indicated by said reproducing time-period flag.

21. The digital signal receiving apparatus as claimed in Claim 15, wherein said control flag includes a reproducing frequency flag indicating information as to a frequency in which reproductions are permitted, said detecting/controlling circuit permitting said

reproduction from said recording medium if a present reproducing frequency is within said frequency indicated by said reproducing frequency flag.

22. The digital signal receiving apparatus as claimed in Claim 15, wherein said control flag includes a recording medium flag indicating information as to a type of a recording medium into which a reproduction is permitted, said detecting/controlling circuit permitting said reproduction if said recording medium is a recording medium specified by said recording medium flag.

23. The digital signal receiving apparatus as claimed in Claim 14, wherein, even if said control flag has copy information indicating copy prohibition, when detecting a temporary copy flag permitting a temporary recording into said recording medium, said detecting/controlling circuit executes said control for recording said digital signal into said recording medium.

24. The digital signal receiving apparatus as claimed in Claim 14, wherein, in accordance with said condition of said control flag, said detecting/controlling circuit erases said digital signal recorded into said recording medium.

25. The digital signal receiving apparatus as claimed in Claim 24, wherein said detecting/controlling circuit erases said digital signal when a predetermined time-period has passed.

26. The digital signal receiving apparatus as claimed in Claim 24, wherein said detecting/controlling circuit erases said digital signal when a present reproducing frequency has exceeded a predetermined frequency.

27. A digital signal transmitting method of transmitting a digital signal to a digital signal receiving apparatus, comprising a step of:

transmitting said digital signal in a state where a control flag as to temporary copy permission is added to said digital signal, said control flag being intended for executing a control at the time when said receiving apparatus temporarily records said digital signal into a recording medium.

28. The digital signal transmitting method as claimed in Claim 27, wherein said control flag includes information in terms of which said digital signal receiving apparatus executes a reproducing control of reproducing said digital signal from said recording medium.

29. The digital signal transmitting method as claimed in Claim 27, wherein said control flag includes a recording medium flag indicating information as to a type of a recording medium into which a recording is permitted.

30. The digital signal transmitting method as claimed in Claim 28, wherein said control flag includes a reproducing point-in-time flag indicating information



as to a point-in-time when a reproduction is permitted.

31. The digital signal transmitting method as claimed in Claim 28, wherein said control flag includes a reproducing time-period flag indicating information as to a time-period during which a reproduction is permitted.

32. The digital signal transmitting method as claimed in Claim 28, wherein said control flag includes a reproducing frequency flag indicating information as to a frequency in which reproductions are permitted.

33. The digital signal transmitting method as claimed in Claim 28, wherein said control flag includes a recording medium flag indicating information as to a type of a recording medium into which a reproduction is permitted.

34. The digital signal transmitting method as claimed in Claim 27, wherein said control flag includes a temporary copy flag that permits a temporary recording even at the time of copy prohibition.

35. The digital signal transmitting method as claimed in Claim 27, wherein said control flag includes information as to a condition for erasing said digital signal recorded into said recording medium.

36. The digital signal transmitting method as claimed in Claim 35, wherein said condition for erasing said digital signal is to erase said digital signal when a predetermined time-period has passed.

37. The digital signal transmitting method as

claimed in Claim 35, wherein said condition for erasing said digital signal is to erase said digital signal when a present reproducing number has exceeded a predetermined number.

38. A digital signal recording/reproducing apparatus for recording an inputted digital signal into a recording medium and reproducing said digital signal from said recording medium, a control flag as to temporary copy permission being added to said inputted digital signal, comprising:

a recording circuit for recording said digital signal into a 1st recording medium,

a reproducing circuit for reproducing said digital signal from said 1st recording medium, and

a detecting/controlling circuit for detecting said control flag and controlling said recording circuit and said reproducing circuit, wherein

said detecting/controlling circuit temporarily records said digital signal into said 1st recording medium in accordance with a condition of said control flag.